

Hupp, Sydney

From: McMurray, Forrest
ent: Monday, May 22, 2017 6:31 PM
To: Hupp, Sydney
Subject: Fwd: Q & A for Admin Pruitt

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Elizabeth Vago <evago@steel.org>
Date: May 22, 2017 at 6:27:23 PM EDT
To: "McMurray, Forrest (mcmurray.forrest@epa.gov)" <mcmurray.forrest@epa.gov>
Subject: Q & A for Admin Pruitt

Climate Issue

1. As you know, our industry has consistently opposed plans from the previous Administration to regulate GHGs from electric utilities, as the regulations could threaten the reliability and affordability of the electricity supply so critical to our sector's international competitiveness. We are pleased that you are reexamining those rules. Can you please provide an update on those review efforts and what next steps might be? How can we best assist you in your efforts moving forward?
2. Over the U.S. steel industry has reduced our energy intensity by 31 percent and our GHG emissions intensity by 36 percent. At the same time, we're facing a serious surge of steel products imported into the U.S. from other countries with worse energy and environmental performances. What are your thoughts on how can we ensure that our world-leading performance in these areas into a global advantage for our domestic sector, rather than a disadvantage?

Auto GHG Regs

3. How is progress going on the reconsideration of the auto GHG standards for MY 2022-25? Do you anticipate California coming to the table to work with EPA, DOT and the automakers on a reasonable solution moving forward?

4. We were very pleased to see the administration announce plans to reconsider the MY 2022-2025 greenhouse gas auto standards issued at the end of the last administration. One of the compliance strategies that may be necessary to meet stringent GHG tailpipe standards is for automakers to be forced to shift to lighter weight materials. However, a growing body of research shows that these lighter weight materials have much higher CO2 production-phase emissions than steel, and so this move could actually end up under some scenarios increasing overall greenhouse gas emissions. Could we have an opportunity to meet and discuss this with you as EPA continues work on this reconsideration?

Reg Reform

5. What is the next step for EPA's evaluation of existing rules in your regulatory reform initiative? There have been several public comment requests, as well as opportunities to verbally raise issues and concerns about regulations that need to be modified or rescinded. When will there be a clearer sense of EPA's early priorities to come from this effort?

Financial Assurance

6. EPA is required by court order to issue financial assurance standards for the hard rock mining industry by Dec 1, 2017. As proposed last December, these standards would impact the steel industry dramatically by hitting iron ore mining with very significant costs. Can you share any of your thinking on how development of this final rule is going?